

COURT INFORMATION



PREPARING FOR COURT

- Arrange for childcare ahead of time.
- Dress conservatively.
- Try to recall what you witnessed.
- Court hearings may last longer than expected. Bring books, magazines and other items to occupy your time.

TIPS FOR TESTIFYING

- Tell the truth.
- If you cannot remember something or do not understand what someone says, say so.
- If you do not know the answer to a question, say you don't know.
- Think before you speak.
- Speak loudly and clearly.
- Show respect toward the judge and attorneys.

VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

If the defendant is found guilty in a felony case, the judge may withhold sentencing until a pre-sentencing investigation is complete. If you are a victim of a crime, you may prepare a written statement that will be included in the pre-sentencing report. The judge uses the pre-sentencing report to help determine an appropriate sentence. A Victim Impact Statement can include any economic losses, physical/psychological injuries and any major life changes as the result of the crime. Call Victim Services if you want assistance in preparing a Victim Impact Statement.

RESTITUTION

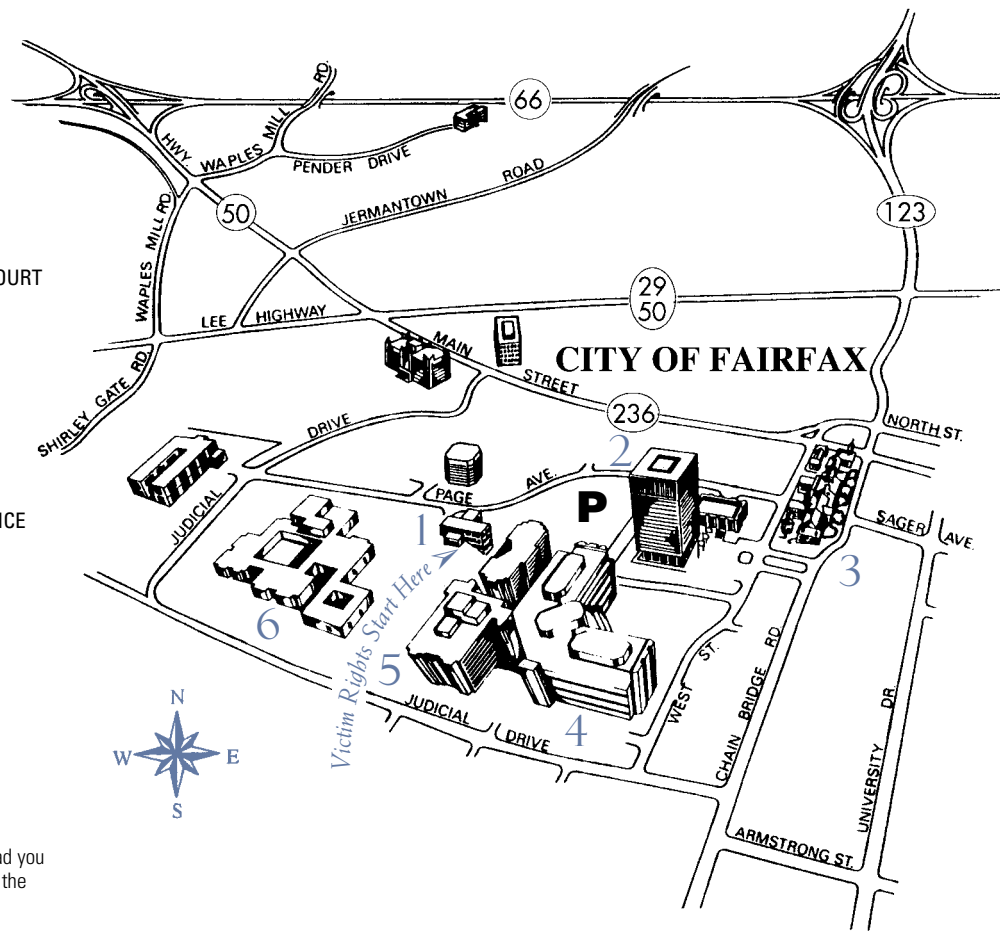
If the offender is arrested, convicted and sentenced, you may have a right to restitution. The defendant can be ordered to repay you under certain circumstances. It is important that you speak with a Victim Services Specialist prior to your first court appearance.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX

- 1 POLICE ANNEX**
(*VICTIM SERVICES SECTION is located here*)
10600 Page Avenue, Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-2141
- 2 MASSEY BUILDING**
4100 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030
- 3 JUVENILE & DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT**
4000 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-3040
- 4 JENNINGS BUILDING/JUDICIAL CENTER**
(Fairfax County General District and Circuit Courts are located here)
4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-3305 (General District Court)
703-246-2228 (Circuit Court)
- 5 ADULT DETENTION CENTER/MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE**
10520 Judicial Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-2100 (ADC)
703-246-2178 (Magistrate's Office)
- 6 JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER**
10650 Page Avenue, Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-2844

DIRECTIONS TO PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX FROM I-66:

- Exit 60 (Rte. 123 South toward Fairfax)
- Turn *right* onto North Street
- Immediately move into *far-left lane*. This lane will lead you directly into the Public Safety Center (follows signs to the parking garage)



COURT INFORMATION

FAIRFAX COUNTY JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT

has jurisdiction over juvenile matters, offenses committed by adults against juveniles and family matters (except divorce) in Fairfax County, City of Fairfax and the towns of Herndon and Vienna. Adults charged with committing felonies against children or family members are brought into Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, after arrest, for a preliminary hearing.

GENERAL DISTRICT COURT has jurisdiction over statutory misdemeanors, violations of local ordinances, traffic infractions, preliminary hearings, civil lawsuits where the amount at issue is \$15,000 or less and mental commitment hearings.

PRELIMINARY HEARINGS ON FELONY CASES: A person accused of a felony (a crime punishable by more than one year in jail) is entitled to have a Preliminary Hearing. This is not a trial. It is a hearing to determine if there is probable cause that the defendant committed the crime.

CIRCUIT COURT tries civil and criminal cases, jury and non-jury trials. The Court hears felony criminal cases. The Court also hears appeals of misdemeanor and traffic cases from the General District and Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,
PLEASE CALL THE VICTIM SERVICES SECTION
AT 703-246-2141.